

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LISBON 03836 081655Z

65

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 /025 W

----- 091815

R 081514Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3344

INFO USIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LISBON 3836

USIA FOR IWE/GAWRONSKI

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, PO

SUBJ: ANTI-AMERICAN TONE OF PORTUGUESE TV "POLITICAL-REVOLUTION-
ARY" FILM DOCUMENTARY

1. PRIME TV TIME SUNDAY EVENING, JULY 6, WAS GIVEN TO AN
HOUR-LONG FILM DOCUMENTARY, PRODUCED BY PORTUGUESE TV NETWORK,
ENTITLED "WHAT WILL I DO WITH THIS SWORD?" UNDERLYING THEME
OF DOCUMENTARY, WHICH IS COMPRISED MAINLY OF OLD NEWS CLIPS,
IS THAT THE ROAD TO SOCIALISM IS VERY DIFFICULT BECAUSE
AMERICAN IMPERIALISM IS SEEN AS THE PORTUGUESE REVOLUTION'S
NUMBER ONE ENEMY. FILM IS POORLY MADE, STRIDENTLY ANTI-
AMERICAN, AND TOO SYMBOLIC, CONFUSING AND COMPLICATED TO BE
COMPREHENSIBLE IN ITS ENTIRETY.

2. WHAT COMES THROUGH LOUD AND CLEAR, HOWEVER, IS THE BLATANT
ATTEMPT TO SOW HATRED FOR THE UNITED STATES. FILM CLIPS
FOCUSING ON THE CANNONS OF U.S. SHIPS ON A RECENT VISIT TO
LISBON ARE FOLLOWED QUICKLY BY SHOTS OF PORTUGUESE PEASANTS
TOILING IN THE FIELDS. CLIPS OF INTERVIEWS WITH AMERICAN
SAILORS, WHO IN ALL LIKELIHOOD WERE UNAWARE OF BEING FILMED,
AND THEIR UNSOPHISTICATED ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS (EXAMPLES:
Q. DO YOU BELIEVE IN DEMOCRACY? A. I DON'T KNOW. Q. WHY
ARE YOU IN PORTUGAL? A. WE GO WHERE THERE MIGHT BE TROUBLE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LISBON 03836 081655Z

AND WHERE WE HAVE INFLUENCE. Q. DO YOU SPEAK PORTUGUESE?

A. NO, BECAUSE LOTS OF PEOPLE IN THE STATE SPEAK ENGLISH GOOD.) ARE FOLLOWED QUICKLY BY INTERVIEWS WITH PORTUGUESE WORKERS WHO ELOQUENTLY SPOUT THE ANTI-IMPERIALIST LINE WHILE POINTEDLY BLAMING THE UNITED STATES FOR EVERY ILL THAT EVER BESET PORTUGAL. ONE WORKER REFERRED TO "AMERICAN BELLICOSE ACTIONS IN PORTUGAL" SO MATTER-OF-FACTLY HE GAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT DETAILS OF SAME WOULD ONLY BE REDUNDANT. ONE POWERFUL SEGMENT IS A SEEMINGLY ENDLESS NEWS CLIP OF AN ANTI-NATO MARCH SHOWING CLOSE-UPS OF HUNDREDS OF PORTUGUESE WORKERS SCREAMING "NATO, GET OUT*"

3. THERE FOLLOWED AN HOUR-LONG ROUNDTABLE SESSION BY A PANEL OF DIGNITARIES, INCLUDING GOP INFORMATION MIN. JESUINO, WHICH DISCUSSED THE PROS AND CONS OF THE FILM, BILLED AS A POLITICAL-REVOLUTIONARY WORK OF ART. JESUINO PANNED THE FILM AS BEING UNPROFESSIONAL, UNNECESSARY AND OVER THE HEADS OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC. (HIS FEELINGS WERE CORROBORATED BY THE FACT THAT SEVERAL VIEWERS TELEPHONED THE STATION SAYING THEY COULDN'T FIGURE OUT THE FILM.) MOST PANEL MEMBERS PRAISED THE FILM--OR WHAT IT STOOD FOR--BUT NONE VENTURED THAT THE ATTACK ON THE UNITED STATES WAS, IN THE SLIGHTEST, UNCALLED FOR.

COMMENT: THE FUROR CAUSED BY THE FILM, AND THE PANEL'S REACTION TO IT, PRACTICALLY INSURES THAT VIEWERS WILL SEE THE FILM A SECOND TIME, AS WELL AS OTHERS OF ITS ILK. FILM WAS PRODUCED BY JOAO CESAR MONTEIRO, HIS FIRST PRODUCTION SPECIFICALLY FOR TV, IN COOPERATION WITH OTHER PRODUCERS REPORTEDLY AFFILIATED WITH THE COMMUNIST PARTY.

CARLUCCI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ANTIAMERICAN, TELEVISION BROADCASTING, MOTION PICTURES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LISBON03836
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750235-1054
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750777/aaaacrev.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 JUN 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <23 DEC 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ANTI-AMERICAN TONE OF PORTUGUESE TV "POLITICAL-REVOLUTION-ARY" FILM DOCUMENTARY
TAGS: SOPN, PO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006